



# COLLICUTT SCHOOL

## SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

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*PRINCIPAL: Fatumah Mbabaali*

June 18, 2018

**RE: Collicutt School implementation of a Balanced School Day structure in 2018-2019 school year**

Dear parents,

I'm pleased to inform you that Collicutt School will be implementing a Balanced School Day (BSD) structure in 2018-2019 school year. The Seven Oaks School Board supports our decision to implement the BSD structure. The minister of education, Honourable Ian Wishart granted Collicutt permission to implement the Balanced School Day for the 2018-2019 school year.

The BSD implementation idea was presented to the Parent Advisory Council in the winter of 2017 and discussions during parent council meetings followed through the winter months. On March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 you were all invited to attend an information meeting about the Balanced School Day structure. Those in attendance, agreed to move forward and implement the BSD structure for the coming year as this structure would benefit our children's academic, physical, nutritional, social and emotional development.

Staff reviewed research on the Balanced School Day structure and engaged in discussions with staff from other schools in the Division already working within a Balanced School Day structure. With the knowledge acquired, we are confident in restructuring our school day to a Balanced School Day.

Under the Balanced School Day structure, the children will receive the same amount of instructional time that they receive now within the current school day structure. The Balanced School day structure will provide our children with less transition time within the day and longer uninterrupted time blocks for instruction as well as nutrition and physical activity engagement. We have no doubt that the Balanced School Day structure will support our goals for creatively structuring and implementing effective in-depth instruction and learning. Children who have difficulty with transitions will benefit from less time spent transitioning as a result of merging our physical activity breaks to two thirty minute breaks.

Instead of the two 15 minutes' recess breaks, the children will have two 30 minutes' recess breaks. The 30 minutes will give the children time to dress up, go outside and play for a longer period, which allows time for problem solving and finish/start new games. The current school day structure doesn't allow children to have enough time to settle into a game as the bell rings before they end the game – leading to a 'melt down' for some or refusal to re-enter the school for others. More information will be sent to you in our end of year summer newsletter with details on packing nutritious lunches and snacks.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 204-338-7937 or at [Fatumah.mbabaali@7oaks.org](mailto:Fatumah.mbabaali@7oaks.org) to answer any questions you may have.

Fatumah Mbabaali | Principal